IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Michael Wayne Brown, et al.

Serial No.: 09/915,490 Confirmation Number: 6710

Filed: 7/26/2001 Title: WATERMARKING MESSAGING SESSIONS : Before the Examiner:

Avi M Gold

: Group Art Unit: 2157

: IBM Corporation (AP): c/o Amy J. Pattillo: P.O. Box 161327

: Austin, Texas 78716

REPLY AND AMENDMENT TO A NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Box Non-Fee Amendment (Pats) Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Non-Final Office Action having a mailing date of December 5, 2006, with a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 5, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following amendments and remarks.

No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.